

expand this scheme to cover all the Community Development Blocks and Urban Slums a phased manner. However, the pace of expansion would depend upon the in availability of funds. The State-wise details, therefore, cannot be worked out at this stage.

Use of Kerosene Lamps

3292. SHRIMATI SUSEEL GOPALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to use high tech: lamps by railway staff for checking railway installation at night, instead of outmoded kerosene lamps;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Yes Sir; Battery operated lamps are being progressively introduced in place of kerosene operated Hand Signal lamps. In the first phase guards & drivers are being covered.

(c) Does not arise.

Austerity Drive

3293. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY: SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by the Railways to implement the austerity drive;

(b) the economy effected as a result thereof;

(c) the reduction in expenditure in terms of percentage;

(d) whether prevention of wastage also forms a constituent of austerity drive; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) An Action Plan has been launched to contain expenditure by cost control, cost reduction and economy measures. Further, 10% DOT telephone lines have been surrendered and the budgetary allocation for travelling expenses reduced by 20 per cent.

(b) and (c). The impact of post-budgetary factors like higher rates of Dearness Allowance, devaluation of rupee, increase in the price of coal, electricity etc. as also the cost of inputs required for movement of additional traffic over and above the original target has been largely absorbed by the economy measures.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Students in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow

3294. SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA: DR. SUDHIR RAY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students in standard XI and XII each session in the Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow (Russia) during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to close down the Humanities stream in the Vidyalaya; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE-